



United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service

News Release



Cooperating with Colorado Department of Agriculture
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CROP PRODUCTION – November 2010

COLORADO HIGHLIGHTS

Colorado's **corn** for grain production for 2010 remains forecast at 171.36 million bushels, up 13 percent from last year's crop of 151.47 million bushels but unchanged from the October 1 forecast. Expected average yield is forecast at 144 bushels per acre, down 9 bushels from the previous year. Producers are expected to harvest 1.19 million acres for grain. **Sorghum** production for 2010 is now expected to total 5.60 million bushels, up from the October 1 forecast of 5.18 million bushels, but 17 percent below last year's crop of 6.75 million bushels. The 2010 yield is expected to average 40 bushels per acre, up 3 bushels from last month but 5 bushels below the 2009 average. The area expected to be harvested remains at 140,000 acres, which is 10,000 acres less than last year. **Sugarbeet** production is now forecast at 820,000 tons, down 143,000 tons from the previous year. Yields are expected to average a record high 29.5 tons per acre, up 1.5 tons from last month and up 2.0 tons per acre from the yield attained in 2009. The area for harvest is forecast at 27,800 acres, down from 35,000 acres in 2009. **Fall potato** growers in the San Luis Valley produced an estimated 21.53 million hundredweight of potatoes this year, down 552,000 hundredweight from last year's crop. Average yield was set at 390 hundredweight per acre, down 10 hundredweight per acre from last year's record high yield of 400 hundredweight per acre. Harvested area of 55,200 acres this year was unchanged from 2009.

UNITED STATES HIGHLIGHTS

Corn production is forecast at 12.5 billion bushels, down 1 percent from the October forecast and down 4 percent from last year's record production of 13.1 billion bushels. As of November 1, yields are expected to average 154.3 bushels per acre, down 1.5 bushels from the previous month and 10.4 bushels below last year's record of 164.7 bushels. Forecasted yields decreased from last month throughout much of the Corn Belt, with the biggest decline forecasted in Missouri, down 7 bushels per acre. The expected yield in South Dakota declined 5 bushels from last month while the Nebraska yield dropped 4 bushels per acre. Record high yields are forecast in California, Georgia, Michigan, Minnesota, New York, North Dakota, and Wisconsin.

Sugarbeet production for the 2010 crop year is forecast at 31.9 million tons, down 4 percent from the October 1 forecast but 8 percent above 2009. Producers expect to harvest 1.15 million acres, up 29,000 acres from October and up 4,900 acres from 2009. Yield is forecast at 27.7 tons per acre, a decrease of 1.9 tons from the previous forecast but 2.0 tons above last year. If realized, this will be a record high yield for the United States. Record high yields are also expected in Colorado, Minnesota, North Dakota, and Wyoming. Sugarbeet producers in the four major producing States dug 62 percent of this year's crop during October. In Minnesota and North Dakota, ideal fieldwork conditions allowed harvest to advance ahead of both last year and the average pace throughout the month. By October 31, ninety-two percent of the Nation's sugarbeet crop had been harvested, the quickest pace since 2003.

Sorghum production is forecast at 338 million bushels, up fractionally from the October 1 forecast but 12 percent below last year. Area harvested for grain is forecast at 4.66 million acres, unchanged from the previous forecast but 16 percent below last year. If realized, this will be the lowest harvested acreage on record since 1936. Based on November 1 conditions, yield is forecast at 72.5 bushels per acre, up 0.1 bushel from October and up 3.1 bushels from last year. Record high yields are forecast in Louisiana and Texas.

Total U.S. **potato** production in 2010 from all seasons is forecast at 399 million hundredweight, down 7 percent from 2009. Harvested area, at 1.01 million acres, is down 3 percent from last year. Average yield is forecast at 396 hundredweight per acre, down 18 hundredweight from the previous year record high yield of 414 hundredweight per acre.

Production of **fall potatoes** for 2010 is forecast at 361 million hundredweight, down 8 percent from 2009. Area harvested, at 882,500 acres, is slightly above the July forecast. The average yield forecast, at 410 hundredweight per acre, is down 19 hundredweight per acre from last year's record high yield.